

# Getting an Esophagram

## Photo Preparation Book



**Esophagram** means pictures of your throat or esophagus.

The food you eat goes down your esophagus when you swallow it.

Can you find the **ESOPHAGUS**?



This is the Radiology Waiting Room. There are a lot of fun things to do in this room while you wait!

The people in this room are waiting for pictures called X-rays, Ultrasounds, CT scans, and esophagrams (just like you!)



Next, you will go to one of the registration desks. The patient services representative will let the technologists know that you are here.



You will also get a special bracelet that tells everyone who you are. Then you will go back to the waiting room.





When it is time for your esophagram, the technologist will call your name and walk you to the exam room.

**A Technologist** is the person who takes the pictures!

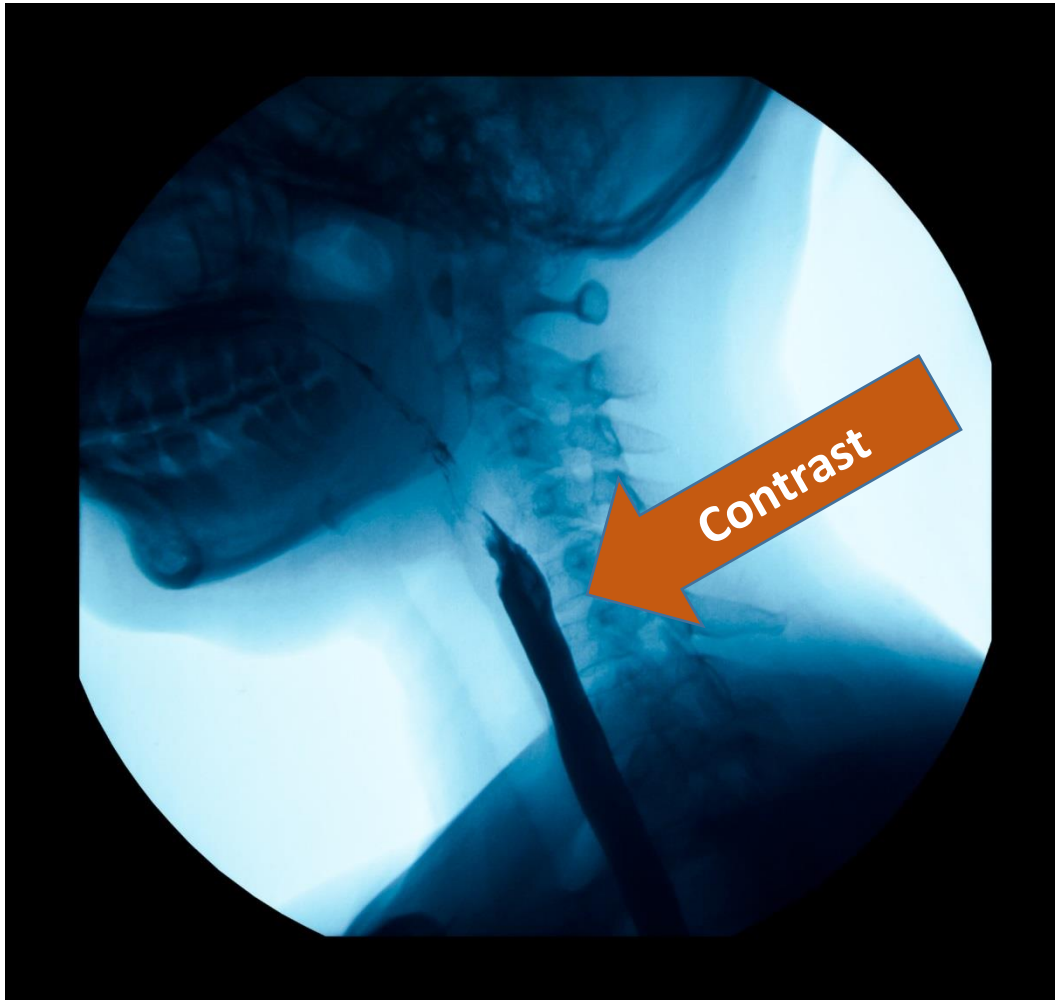


The technologist will give you special hospital pajamas to wear while you get your pictures taken.



The technologist will give the grown-up you brought with you a special apron to wear too.





Now it's time to lie on the table and drink something called Contrast!

**Contrast** is a special drink that makes the picture bright and clear so the doctor can see the right part of your body!

You can choose a flavor and fun cup to drink your Contrast!





Next the doctor will come into the room and move the camera across your body.

**Remember:** The camera won't ever touch you!



The doctor will take pictures of your esophagus as you drink the contrast.

Your job is to:

1. Take REALLY BIG sips of the contrast
2. Stay very still while the doctor takes your pictures
3. Roll on your side when the doctor tells you to





As the doctor takes the pictures, you will be able to see them on the TV screen that is in the room!

To help you stay still, you can....



Play a game, watch a  
movie or listen to  
music!



Squeeze a stress ball  
or a grown-up's  
hand!

# Additional Support

If your child has any special needs or health issues you feel the doctor needs to know about, please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology at Children's to speak with a technologist or Child Life Specialist before the test. (412) 692-5512.

It is important to notify us in advance about any special needs.

Preparing your child beforehand, as well as comforting your child during the test, will help your child have a more positive experience.

Sometimes it is difficult to know how to explain tests to children. These preparation books have been created to help you and your child feel as prepared as possible.

If you feel that your child will have difficulty during the test or needs a more developmentally appropriate explanation prior to their visit please call the Department of Pediatric Radiology's Child Life Specialist (412) 692- 9532.